

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PHNOM 03527 130438 Z

73-12

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O P 130400 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 902

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

CINCPAC PRIORITY

COMUSMACTHAI PRIORITY

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 3527

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, APER, CB

SUBJECT: AUGMENTATION OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL

REF: A. PHNOM PENH 3301

B. STATE 368703

1. THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN REF A REGARDING THE DATE OF DEPARTURE OF PERSONNEL WHOSE POSITIONS ARE TO BE ELIMINATED REFLECTED NOT ONLY A DESIRE FOR AN ORDERLY PHASING OUT OF PERSONNEL AS TOURS EXPIRE BUT ALSO OUR JUDGMENT ON THE PRIORITIES OF THIS MISSIONS' S PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES. POSTPONEMENT OF ALL MEDTC PERSONNEL REDUCTIONS UNTIL THE LAST WOULD NOT ACCORD WITH THESE PRIORITIES AS I SEE THEM, AND I THEREFORE ASK FOR SOME FLEXIBILITY IN CARRYING OUT YOUR WISHES. I AM UNABLE TO ACQUIESCE IN THE APRIL DEPARTURE OF THE USIS RADIO TECHNICIAN, WHOSE PRESENCE IS VITAL IN THIS FINAL STAGE OF OUR TWO RADIO PROJECTS IN BATTAMBANG AND KOMPONG SOM; NOT AM I ABLE TO DOE WITHOUT THE CHIEF OF THE POLITICAL SECTION, WHOSE EXTENSIVE CONTACTS AMONG OPPOSITION POLITICIANS ARE A VERY IMPORTANT ASSET AT THIS CRUCIAL JUNCTURE WHEN EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO BROADEN THE BASE OF THE LON NOL GOVERNMENT.

2. I THEREFORE PROPOSE TO HANDLE THE NEED FOR 10

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 PHNOM 03527 130438 Z

POSITIONS IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER.

A. TWO POSITIONS HAVE NOT YET BEEN OFFICIALLY
AUTHORIZED AND SHOULD NOT BE ESTABLISHED:

- (1) THE GSO POSITION
- (2) THE PROPOSED ECONOMIC PLANNING AND
RECONSTRUCTION ADVISER

B. TWO POSITIONS, NOW VACANT SHOULD BE ABOLISHED:

- (3) THE SENIOR ECONOMIST POSITION (22-025)
- (4) THE DAO ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST POSITION (JTD RN 10980).

C. (5) ONE OF THE TWO AUTHORIZED CINCPAC POSI-
TIONS IN THE POLITICAL- MILITARY SECTION SHOULD BE
ABOLISHED. SINCE THE INCUMBENT OF ONE OF THESE POSITIONS,
LT. COL. RICHARD I. EDWARDS, HAS BEEN HOSPITALIZED IN
HONOLULU FOR SOME WEEKS, WE REQUEST THAT CINCPAC BE RE-
QUESTED TO ABOLISH THE POSITION TO WHICH HE IS ASSIGNED.

D. (6) AND (7) TWO FEDERAL ELECTRIC CORPORATION
EMPLOYEES WILL BE REQUESTED TO DEPART BEFORE APRIL 30,
BY WHICH TIME TCN' S SHOULD HAVE BEEN FOUND TO REPLACE
THEM.

E . THE FOLLOWING MEDTC POSITIONS WOULD BE VACATED
IN APRIL WITHOUT RPT WITOUT ANY CHANGE IN THE JTD.

(I) (8) THE PSOITION OCCUPIED BY CW3
GEORGE PRIOR, WHO WAS EVACUATED FOR MEDICAL REASONS
APRIL 11, IS ALREADY VACANT AND WOULD NOT BE FILLED.
(THIS POSITION IS SUBSTITUTED FOR JTD PARA 15 LINE 04
CITED IN REF A)

(II) (9) COMPTROLLER 12/03 WOULD BE MOVED TO
THAILAND.

(III) (10) ADMIN NCO 14/01 WOULD BE MOVED TO
THAILAND.

3. WITH RESPECT TO THE FIVE ADDITIONAL PSOITIONS PUR-
PORTEDLY NEEDED IN MAY, OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH GENERAL
HAIG ON APRIL 10 EXAMINED THE ALTERNATIVE THAT THESE
POSITIONS MIGHT BETTER BE ALLOCATED, IN WHOLE OR IN
PART, TO AN AUGMENTATION OF THE DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 PHNOM 03527 130438 Z

GENERAL HAIG WILL DISCUSS THIS OPTION WITH THE NSC STAFF

AND OTHER AGENCIES ON HIS RETURN. IN ANY CASE, WE BELIEVE THERE IS GREAT MERIT IN LETTING US DIGEST THE PACKAGE OF TEN OVER A 6 TO 8 WEEK TIME FRAME. IF YOU CONFIRM THAT WE ARE TO PROCEED WITH THE SUPPLEMENTARY PACKAGE OF FIVE, THE ADDITIONAL OFFICERS SHOULD STILL BE IN PLACE BY JUNE 1.

4. REQUEST YOUR APPROVAL OF THE ACTIONS STIPULATED IN PARA TWO. COUNTRY TEAM CONCURS.
SWANK

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*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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